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Letter to Jennie Guiney, 1862 April 23

Patrick Guiney

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New Yorkton Va.

April 25. 1862

My dear Annie.

I have duly received
two letters and lots of journals
etc., since I wrote to you last. I
would have written to you several
times since but I have been quite
unwell. I was out during one
very stormy night with a party of
men engaged in building a breast-
work in front of one of the enemy's
batteries. Early in the evening I was
wet through to the skin and remain-
ed so until morning. I have often
been wet as much and had no trouble.
but this time I was taken down.

However, to-day I feel quite well.
Father Scully has been very kind to
me during my illness. I am quite res-
tored - and am going on duty tomorrow.

We are progressing in our
preparations for attack. Mr. Hellan co-
idently thinks highly of "our friends -

the enemy." Our delay and elaborate precautions is a compliment paid in advance to the rebels. It was thought that the Bombardment of Yorktown would commence this morning - but I have heard nothing of it yet - If it were going on I would be likely to hear of it. We have got a few wooden gun-boats here which keep us awake at night with their rive's pranks. They can't go up in the day time so they run up at night and shake up the rebels. Probably next Monday something will be done.

The extreme kindness of Colonel Bass will not permit me to rest until tomorrow. I have just received notice from him to go off again to-night. It is raining too. Be silent on the subject. I will take care of myself tonight. He is very kind but complaining is boyish - away with it.